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DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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MINERALS PROGRAM
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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

March 4, 1991

Wayne Hedberg, Minerals Permits Supervisor
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Hedberg:

This letter is in response to a request from Holland Shepherd of your office (telephone conversation with Brent Everett February 26) for verification of Kennecott Corporation involvement with the Bureau of Environmental Response and Remediation (BERR) regarding activity in the Bingham Creek channel. The Bingham Creek channel is currently under investigation by the BERR and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under authorities specified in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) and outlined in the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Preliminary BERR sampling conducted in last August discovered elevated levels of lead and arsenic in the soils and sediments of the Bingham Creek channel and associated floodplain areas. In response to these initial findings, Kennecott conducted extensive sampling of the channel last fall. Kennecott's work included additional sampling and the testing of safety and removal techniques at three locations in the channel. The State and EPA are continuing to conduct extensive sampling of sediments in the creek channel as a result of the State's preliminary findings and will hopefully have the cooperation of Kennecott in planning possible remediation of the problem areas.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Bob McLeod or Brent Everett at 538-6338.

Sincerely,

Kent P. Gray, Director
Bureau of Environmental Response and Remediation

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